Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 014550

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. HENDERSON VISIT. MANY THANKS FOR MAKING JIM HENDERSON'S CONSULTATIONS SO WORTHWHILE. WE HAVE ALSO GOTTEN A FRESH VIEW OF THE ARRAY OF PROBLEMS (EG., THE KIEV STALL) CONFRONTING YOU. JOE PRESSEL AND DON MAYER IN LENINGRAD WERE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN ARRANGING THIS VISIT.

2. RE GILMORE. YOUR GUESS THAT HIS REACTION WAS POLITESSE IS BORNE OUT BY OUR KNOWLEDGE. WE HAD BEEN PUSHING ALONG THE SAME LINES YOU DID, AND PERSONNEL CALLED HIM ABOUT A WEEK AGO AND PUT THE ARM ON HIM. HIS REACTION WAS THAT WHILE HE WOULD GO IF ORDERED, HE DIDN'T WANT TO. WE UNDER-STAND THAT HE HAS BEEN OFFERED SOMETHING HE VERY MUCH WANTS IF AND WHEN AN EMBASSY CHANGES HANDS, AND THAT THE BUREAU HAS ENCOURAGED PERSONNEL TO HOLD HIM BACK FROM THE MARKET
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FOR THIS PURPOSE. AND, BASED ON OUR EARLIER TALKS WITH HIM, IT APPEARS TRUE THAT HIS WIFE REALLY DOESN'T LIKE THE IDEA. AS FOR OTHER COMPARABLE 3'S, WE HAVEN'T COME UP WITH ANYONE EVEN FOR SUMMER, AND FRANKLY DON'T THINK WE HAVE OVERLOOKED ANY LOGICAL--OR EVEN LONGSHOT--BETS. HOW ABOUT FUERTH THIS SUMMER AND SELL OUT EARLY, LETTING HIM FILL IN FOR SMITH WHO COULD COME TO EXT IN APRIL? FUERTH IS A GOOD MAN, BUT

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WE CAN'T PROMISE YOU THAT EVEN THIS DEAL WOULD FLY, SINCE

HE IS LISTENING TO OTHER SIREN CALLS AS WELL.

3. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MRS. NATASHA LELAND'S OFFICE TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR PROPOSED MARCH 17 DATE FOR SPASO CONCERT FOR YALE RUSSIAN CHORUS IS AGREEABLE. MRS. LELAND WAS NOT AVAILABLE, BUT HER ASSISTANT PROMISED TO BRING THE MATTER TO HER ATTENTION AND GIVE US AN ANSWER BY MONDAY, JANUARY 24, OR TUESDAY THE 25TH.

4. RE SCHOOLING FOR PORTUGUESE DCM. I AM POUCHING TO YOU A PLACEMENT TEST WHICH CAN BE RETURNED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE APPLICATION FORM AND TUITION IN ORDER TO SPEED THINGS UP.

5. FIRST REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED EARLY NEXT WEEK. WE ARE MAKING ALL APPROPRIATE NOISES ABOUT COMMUNICATING THERE AS WELL, AND WILL DO BEST TO ASSURE READOUT.

6. JACK SONTAG IS OCI'S NOMINEE FOR THE POL SEMINAR REPLACEMENT THIS YEAR. HE IS FINISHING UP A TOUR IN INR WHERE HE HAS HANDLED SINO-SOVIET MATTERS. WE THINK HIGHLY OF HIM AND WILL PASS ON OUR APPROVAL TO CIA IF YOU AGREE.

7. NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED JANUARY 20 THAT EMBASSY EXPANDING BLOOD AND WATER TESTS IN MOSCOW. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF EXPANSION OF WATER SAMPLING PROGRAM TO INCLUDE
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NON-USG EMPLOYEES. ALSO, ARTICLE REFERS TO REPORT TO WHITE HOUSE THAT QUOTE MICROWAVE RADIATION SIMILAR TO THE BEAMS THE RUSSIANS AIM AT THE EMBASSY HAS AN ABNORMAL EFFECT ON HUMAN BLOOD. UNQUOTE. CAN YOU SHED ANY LIGHT?

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